

## From the Ohio Colony in Dakota.

We had brother John H. Worst to preach for us at our harvest meeting at the house of brother J. E. Roop, and I need not assure you that we had a good sermon and an enjoyable meeting. We expect to use brother Worst still more when we get a school house built, which is now in progress. We are now sustaining a good Sunday school in a county building with J. H. Worst, Superintendent.

Many requests have been made for a description of this country which I for my part have been slow to give until I could speak from experience. I came to Dakota one year ago last April with brother Packer. We landed at Bismark now the State capital, where we met Mr. Yeater from Ashland and brother E. J. Worst. From Bismark we came about forty miles south east to Emmons county, where we now are on the east side of the Missouri river and about eighteen miles from that muddy stream. Here we selected a location and commenced improvements. I moved my family here from Ashland the following July. At first there was not a house within eighteen miles of us, but we have hundreds of settlers around us now. We liked the country from the first, but like it better the longer we are here. We had every reason to like it this summer for we had a very favorable season. All kinds of grain and vegetables have done well. I would not venture to describe the size and yield of crops here for fear of suspicion that I was exaggerating suffice it to say I never either in Ohio or Iowa, where I formerly lived, raised such potatoes and other vegetables as we raised here this year.

Wheat runs from eighteen to thirty bushels per acre, oats forty to sixty-five by machine measure. Barley is good, flax not much sown, but good.

Mr. Shelly, of the firm of Briggs & Shelly, of Ashland, Ohio, is here now looking after his crops and on his return will take with him numerous samples of the products of this country.

This is a good country for a man to develop in both financially and spiritually. We must labor under some disadvantages, of course, like in all new countries, but I am safe in saying that these disadvantages are as few in Dakota as in any new country. I consider this a good stock country, and we are having very fair corn this season on new breaking, cutting through the sod with an ax and dropping the corn in the rent and leaving it run its chances until it ripened.

We shall not make any special attempts to persuade settlers to come here, but we will welcome all that may come with a determination to endure some privations for the sake of being benefitted.

We will cheerfully give all the information asked for by those desiring to locate here, we have a good soil a good climate, and I think a healthier country cannot be found. Any one desiring to move here or travel here to explore the country should first write to some friend here to get information concerning the best line of railroad to ship or travel on as some of these soulless corporations do not scruple to take the advantage of their patrons and overcharge them.

I hope others of the Ashland colony may also write for the EVANGELIST. I remain yours, with best wishes.

JOHN KURTZ.

Williamsport, Emmons Co., Da.

## Sunday School Report.

On the first Sunday in May, 1884, we, brethren and neighbors, organized our Sunday school, in school district No. 5, Campbell, Michigan, and closed Oct. 5th, with a full house.

Whole No. of scholars enrolled	-	130
Average No. of teachers	-	9
Average No. of actual scholars	-	72
Average No. of all present	-	72
Whole No. of verses memorized	-	4,787
Amount of money raised by school	-	\$14.13
Amount expended	-	13.98
No. of Young Disciples distributed	-	1,050

Thus ended twenty-one consecutive schools with the above results. Our school was a Union school in the true sense of the term. Not a word of jangling or discord was heard in the school. The only lesson leaves we had was the Bible; which we think is the best. I think we had a good school and a fair average attendance for a rural district. The names of the officers are: J. G. Winey, Superintendent and chorister; A. Mote, assistant supt.; Wallace Darty, librarian; H. Hullenberger, treasurer; W. Beach, secretary. As a whole we had a good interesting school and I feel that the Lord's blessing was with us. A good Sunday school, I think, is a blessing to a neighborhood, and an auxiliary and nursery to the church.

J. G. WINEY.

## From Our Spice Mill.

God gives us blessings continually to call forth our thankfulness, but we are just like our children when friends give them presents, they forget to say, "Thank you." Don't tell me how often you pray nor how long your prayers are, but do tell me what they have availed for you, and when you are through, let your neighbors who watch your daily walk and conversation, come up and tell their story—what they think your prayers have accomplished. "Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation." "Know thyself" is a maxim worthy of attention. If you would obey its demands look into the Gospel—God's looking-glass—it is quick and powerful; a discoverer of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Evil is, in man, like fire in flint; let temptation assail him and the burning fire of sin will sparkle.

Lust is in man, like the treacherous disease of ague, it only breaks out at times; drinking of the gospel brook is the only antidote.

"Were there not ten cleansed but where are the nine?" is significant to-day. Jesus is asking every soul that primitive question, Where art thou? Remember eternity will reveal the answer.

Let us be like a wise generation who puts a double guard where the enemy would be likely to attack. Study our weakness and set a double guard where Satan would likely make an inroad upon us.

Little sins should be avoided. If they accumulate upon us they may prove our ruin. A ship will sink just as soon with an overload of little grains of sand as with an overload of solid granite.

The hypocrite asks: "Can I do this or that?" The Christian asks: "Ought I to do it?"

See to it that we are made free by the spirit,—not to do evil, but free to do all the good we can.

"As we have opportunity, let us do good to all men."—Paul.

A broken heart under the threatenings of the law; a contrite spirit under the love of the Gospel, unite in forming evangelistical repentance. Have you passed through this as a sheet of ice is broken and then melted?

Don't pray for the Lord to supply all your wants; but do ask Him to supply your needs.

Don't ask for the origin of evil; it is enough to know it exists; but do seek earnestly for a remedy—obey the Gospel.

If you want your preacher to preach good sermons, just be in the church promptly and don't stop down along the aisle, but come up where he can see who you are, and hear you say amen! when he asks the Lord to bless the work of saving souls.

Never get so much confidence in the veracity of your preacher as to go to sleep while he is talking. Preachers need watching.

The idle scholar gets punished by his faithful teacher for doing nothing. Let disciples (learners) in the school of Christ, be careful. Religion does not consist in feeling or theory, but in doing.

R. F. MALLOTT.

## Items of Interest from Eastern Pa.

Coventry church communion on October 4—had a large, good meeting. Elder J. T. Meyers of Green Tree and brother Light of Lancaster county, assisted Elder J. P. Hetric and brother Jacob Conner during services.

Coventry Sunday School had a very pleasant meeting on Saturday, September 27th. Brethren Sunday school from Harmonyville, and Fairview Sunday school from East Coventry visited us at Coventry meeting house and spent the day. The Mennonite school of East Coventry was well represented by its superintendent and many of its members and friends.

A "sunny golden" day was Sunday, Sept. 28th, at Coventry. We had Sunday school in the morning, pleasant lesson, prayer by brother H. F. Reed, of Philadelphia. At the close a highly entertaining, instructive religious talk by brother J. S. Horley, of Brooklyn. Then came meeting, and Elder J. P. Hetric preached a grand good sermon on "Judge not," and did a great many people good by it; and then, they say our singing is so much improved, and we always thank J. S. Frederick for that.

Hon. Eli Slifer, of Lewisburg, Pa., H. F. Reed of Philadelphia and Joseph S. Harley and wife of Brooklyn, New York, came to old Coventry purposely to attend our Sunday school entertainment. They revived boyhood recollections and certainly enjoyed themselves. Will any of our present boys come back to us, years in the future, crowned with silver threads and testify, concerning good impressions derived from the old home church? God grant it!

E. M. STAUFFER.

## An Appreciative Reader.

DEAR EDITOR: I have often thought of writing some little item for your paper, concerning the greatness of its influence, harmonizing powers, etc.

The EVANGELIST comes to us weekly, and is ever welcome. Its editorials and letters have a great influence that is always tangible to those who read and try to understand. Often when we feel downhearted and lost in the great mountain of thought and misunderstanding, which is one of the general impediments in our great and trying journey through life, the EVANGELIST is a great help to remove such feelings; it seems analogous in the effect as a light-house on the ocean has upon a sailor when a vessel is tossed to and fro in the darkness, its captain not knowing whether he is in a dangerous locality or not; it is with reluctance that he continues, but as soon as the illuminated light-house is visible he can determine his position at once, and thus continue the voyage with brighter feeling. So with the EVANGELIST. It reveals to us the kind of ground upon which we are standing, and leaves us to choose our way.

If there were only more of the great periodicals of to-day devoted to Christian interests, to dissuade infidelity and untruthfulness, and irradiate the unfounded rumors as represented by the ignorantly superstitious, it would be a great step toward harmony, and step by step we reach our destination. So let us move toward harmony, be progressive and energetic in our Christian profession. Let us not move with a banner mottoed "anti-progressive," but let us persevere and strive unto perfection. There are many who are "anti-progressive," it is the few who must stand erect and with brave hearts, crush beneath their feet superstition and error; even out here in the backwoods of Kansas can be found some of both classes.

How many of us can say, "On Christ the solid rock I stand." Could we all but say this! And such should be our aim, as the time for us to be ushered into that invisible universe from which no traveler returns, is coming in apace; the time we can not determine, nor the direction or length of that lonely passage which carries the disembodied spirit from its present to its future abode. But this we do know—and it is enough for our comfort—that in our Father's house are many mansions, and that our Savior has prepared a place for all of his disciples. So let us move sure through this life which seems a mystery, a glorious mystery with a heaven beyond, but a terrible mystery with everlasting punishment in prospect. So let us strive unto perfection, and when the evening of life comes oh! may we be able to sing:

"On Christ the solid rock I stand."

J. M. COBER.

## Sabetha, Kansas.

## From North Liberty, Ohio.

I started from Ankeny town this morning (Oct. 4th), enroute for Washington C. H., to attend a communion with the brethren living in that vicinity. To my surprise, when I reached Junction City the train for Washington had just gone, and here I am, waiting for the next train; so I thought I would consume part of these six hours talking to the readers of the EVANGELIST.

First I will say, that since my last, brother E. B. Shaver, of Mauertown, Virginia, has visited and broken to us the bread of life. His time with us was limited, and until within about two days of his departure, the numerous rains interfered with our meetings. He did us good work. The immediate result of our meetings were, four additions—two by baptism and two by relation.

Brother Shaver is loved much by our people. He stands firm upon the Gospel. His exegesis of Scriptural texts are clear and forcible, and he who withstands his appeals when pleading for the conversion of sinners, assumes much responsibility. His crowning appeal was: "We invite you to come—not to creeds and forms—not to customs and usages—but to the Gospel of Jesus of Nazareth."

Brother Shaver stands identified as yet with the German Baptist brethren; but with the Master whom he serves, he is bold to say: "Whosoever doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven, the same is my brother." His sermon upon "Peace" was fraught with instruction, and it would do us good to see it in print in the columns of the Gospel Messenger. O that we had more brethren in Christ, who would labor for peace and prosperity upon a Gospel basis.

Several of our brethren and sisters are sick at this writing. Our prayers are that they may be speedily restored to health, and meet with us in the house of God as of yore.

Several of our members are moving West this autumn. We are sorry to lose them; but trust they will find homes amid Christian people. You will hear from me soon again.

R. F. MALLOTT.

## From Brother Stephen Hildebrand.

This being the last evening of September, I offer these thoughts to the readers of the EVANGELIST.

On the evening of the first, I was permitted to hear brother Brown, of Ohio, preach a noble sermon at Fairview. On the evening of 2nd, we held our lovefeast at the above named place; and what an enjoyable feast we had! On the 3rd, I was fifty-five years old. In the evening I heard brother Brown preach at Fairview. On the evenings of the fourth and fifth, I heard brother Wampler preach at the Pike. Sunday, the seventh, brother Byars preached for us at the Stutzman school house. Had a good meeting.

On Monday evening I heard brother Brown preach at Conemaugh. On Tuesday and Wednesday I attended the Sunday school convention. Sunday, the fourteenth, meeting morning and evening at the Pike. On Sunday, twenty-first, meeting morning and evening at Fairview. On Saturday evening, Sunday morning and evening, 27th and 28th, meeting at the Stutzman school house. Thus you see that we are not idle in the Conemaugh church; but still doing what little we can for the Master's cause. On Monday evening attended German Baptist meeting at the Horner meeting house. Brother Johnson, of Uniontown, Pa., was expected but failed to be on time, so brother Ditwiler conducted the meeting. On Tuesday evening I attended meeting at the same place; brother Johnson being present, occupied the stand. I became acquainted with brother Johnson years ago, even before he was a preacher; but have not heard him preach often. I met him in district council; and knew, that if he had the minute book of Annual meeting for a text book, he could talk right well. Was permitted to hear him preach this evening however. Thought his sermon was like the man sowing timothy seed on a windy day, it was scattered considerably. He made a few good points, however, something like the following. In speaking of the firmness of the Apostle Paul, he said: "Would to God we had many more men and women who are willing to be governed by the Gospel of Christ." I would like to have whispered to him that there are numbers of men and women in this neighborhood, who are willing to take the Gospel, the whole Gospel, and nothing but the Gospel, for their guide; but I must close for this time. More anon.

STEPHEN HILDEBRAND.

## Mineral Point, Pa.

## Tribute of Respect.

At a regular meeting of the Brethren Sunday school, of Berlin, Pa., held Oct. 5, 1884, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Whereas the messenger of death, has entered the family of our worthy brother and sister, Israel and Eliza Cober, and removed from our midst their beloved son, Wilton Willard:

Therefore, Resolved, That we bow humbly to "Him who doeth all things well, believing that our loss is Wilton's gain.

Resolved, That in the death of brother Cober, the church has lost a consistent member, the Sunday school, an active worker and the community, an influential moral citizen.

Resolved, That the Sunday school deeply sympathizes with the bereaved family and friends, and bid them trust in Him who can comfort, when no one else can.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the bereaved family, and also a copy be preserved in the archives of the Sunday school, and the same be published in the BRETHREN'S EVANGELIST and county papers.

S. S. FORNEY,  
CYRUS W. COBER, } Committe.  
MARY MEYERS,

## From Brooklyn, Iowa.

DEAR EVANGELIST: We commenced our communion meeting on Friday evening, Oct. 3rd, and continued over Sunday. At 6 o'clock Sunday evening, the Brethren met and partook of the Lord's Supper; after which Elder Mohler, of Keokuk county, Iowa, preached a very edifying sermon on the subject, "Non-conformity to the world."

Brethren from Iowa county, were with us in our meetings, and they, as well as us, were made to rejoice and feel strengthened.

Good order prevailed—considering the great number present. At the close of the meeting spectators were heard to say, "It was a beautiful and solemn observance."

I never before witnessed more love among brethren and friends than was manifested on this occasion.

H. M. BAKER.

## Brooklyn, Iowa.

Subscribe for the EVANGELIST now.